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Message Text

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61
ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-06 RSC-01 /015 W
---------- 018606
R 281505Z OCT 74
FM AMCONSUL DOUALA
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0800
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS DOUALA 0293

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BFOL CM
SUBJECT: N/A

REF: USDOC 5277

FOLLOWING IS STATUS OF OVERDUE WTDR REQUESTS:

1. SOLUBAS L. BROTHERS ESQ (USDOC 12874): CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DOUALA HAS NO INFORMATION. CONSOFF UNABLE UNTIL NOW TO VISIT VICTORIA, HOPES DO SO IN NEAR FUTURE. COMPANY HAS NOT RESPONDED MAIL REQUESTS FOR REFTS, OTHER INFO.

2. ETS. CHICOCO CAMEROUN IMPORT (USDOC 12874): CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INFO INADEQUATE EVEN FOR INTERIM WTDR, AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER OUT OF COUNTRY. EXPECTED BACK SHORTLY, WILL FILE ASAP AFTER ARRIVAL.

3. METROPOL ENTERPRISES (USDOC 12517): REQUEST NOT RECEIVED COMM ASST OFFICE. FYI, HOWEVER, FIRM NO LONGER EXISTS, AS 50 MILLION FRANC SUIT FILED AGAINST MANAGING DIRECTOR OF METROPOL ENTERPRISES FOR MISUSE OF FUNDS OF ANOTHER COMPANY. BUEA HIGH COURT HAS ORDERED CLOSURE METROPOL AND BLOCKING ITS ACCOUNTS, AWARDED DAMAGES TO PLAINTIFF. POST STRONGLY RECOMMENDS AGAINST ANY DEALINGS BETWEEN SUBJECT FIRM AND U.S. COMPANIES.

4. SAPROC (USDOC 11549): REPLY SENT AS DOUALA 225 WITHOUR ADRECOMMENDATION 20 AUGUST, REPEATED HEREWITH:

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1. SAPROC, P.O.B. 1100 DOUALA, TELEPHONE 42-61-46.

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2. SAPROC EXECUTIVES CATEGORICALLY REFUSE TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FIRM. HOWEVER, OTHER SOURCES SAY COMPANY ESTABLISHED 1953, CAPITAL BASE 160 MILLION CFA. MR. BLOT, THE FOUNDER, IS IN FRANCE. DOUALA DIRECTOR IS MR. HILE (FRENCH) EXPORTS TROPICAL WOOD AND SELLS PAINTING (HARDWARE) AND WOODWORKING EQUIPMENT. COMPANY SEEMS TO HAVE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATION OF BAYER (WOOD PRODUCTS PROTECTION), BRENTA (WOODWORKING MACHINERY), CIDOLIN (PAINTING), DALFLEX (TILE FLOORING), SISTRE FRERES (SAWS), SOLO/TOLE/ALIBERT (SPRAYERS).

3. AUGUST 74. MITHOEFER.

POST WILL ADD RECOMMENDATION AT THIS TIME THAT CAUTION BE EXERCISED IN INITIAL BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH SUBJECT COMPANY.

5. ETS. DECENCY CONTINENTALE AGENCIES (USDOC 10042): BANK REFERENCES INCONCLUSIVE, CONSULATE TRYING FURTHER INQUIRIES. ALL WE KNOW TO DATE IS THAT FIRM IS NEW AND CAUTION IS STRONGLY ADVISED FOR INITIAL CONTACTS.

6. TIMBER INDUSTRIES LTD. (USDOC 12049): INTERIM REPLY SENT AUGUST 20 AS DOUALA 229, REPEATED H/WITH:

1. TIMBER INDUSTRIES (CAMEROUN) LTD., P.O.B/ 6, TIKO. OFFICER MR. DEAVILLE, DIRECTOR. TEL 12 MUYUKA, TELEX DEVCAM, VICTORIA, NO. 5242.

2. CAPITAL: 55 MILLION CFA, OPERATES IN CAMEROON PLUS EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET.

3. FINANCIAL REFERENCES NOT YET AVAILABLE.

4. BRITISH OWNED FIRM WITH AT LEAST ONE CWOEROONIAN ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SHIPPERS OF WEST AFRICAN HARDWOOD LOGS AND LUMBER. FULL WTDR FOLLOWS ASAP.

5. AUGUST 1974. MITHOEFER.

BANK REFERENCES STILL NOT AVAILABLE, CONSOFF UNABLE VISIT TIKO
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OR MUYUKA TO DATE. COMPANY APPEARS SOLID, RESPONSIBLE, BUT HESITATE TO RECOMMEND UNCONDITIONALLY UNTIL BANK REFERENCES ARE IN.

7. SOCIETE NATIONALE DU CAMEROUN (USDOC 12049): INTERIM REPLY SENT AUGUST 20 AS DOUALA 228, REPEATED H/WITH:

1. SOCIETE NATIONALE DU CAMEROUN-BOIS (SNC-BOIS), B.P. 92

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DOUALA. OFFICER CLAUDE WALGER, DIRECTOR. TEL: 42-15-08.

2. ESTABLISHED 1970 - CAPITAL 160 MILLION CFA. EMPLOYS 523, OF WHOM 513 CAMEROONIANS. OPERATES IN CAMEROON AND EUROPEAN MARKET.

3. FINANCIAL REFERENCES NOT YET AVAILABLE.

4. FIRM HAS TWO SAWMILLSIASTABLISHED 1968 AND 1970, AND PROBABLY A THIRD ONE IS OPERATING NOW. GERMAN OWNERSHIP. THEY ABSORB
X75& OF PRODUCTION. HAS EXPORTED 14,000 CUBIC METERS OF LOGS IN 1971, PLUS 13,000 CUBIC METERS OF TIMBER. INVESTMENTS AMOUNT TO 193 MILLION CFA AS OF JUNE 30, 1973.

5. SNC-BOIS IS ONE OF THE LEADING ENTERPRISES IN WOOD INDUSTRY WITH MODERN MANAGEMENT. FULL WTDR FOLLOWS ASAP.

6. AUGUST 1974. MITHOEFER .

BANK REFERENCES STILL NOT AVAILABLE AS DIRECTOR HAS JUST RETURNED FROM HOLIDAYS, NOT YET ABLE TO SEE CONSOFF. ON BASIS REPUTATION, HISTORY, WOULD BELIEVE STRONG RECOMMENDATION IN FAVOR OF TRADE WILL BE FORTHCOMING AS SOON AS BANK REFS ARE AVAILABLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DOUALA00293
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740308-0708
From: DOUALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741012/aaaaajpm.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USDOC 5277
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: N/A
TAGS: BFOL, CM
To: COM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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